

A Strange and Wonderful  
**RELATION**  
OF  
**MARGARET GURR**  
of Tunbridge, in Kent;

SHEWING,  
**How she was Afflicted**  
WITH  
**DEVILS**

AS ALSO,  
How they entred into her, and spake in her  
and tempted her to Kill her self; and how  
she was taken up by Devils and Witches  
and was flying in the Ayr.

Also, the marvelous Cures done by Dr. Skinner  
in these three Counties, *Viz.* *Sussex, Surrey, and Kent*  
the like strange Cures hath scarce been done or heard  
of. If any doubt the truth of these things, most, or  
the people in the aforesaid Counties will testifie the v  
rity of these things, which was done by

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*John Skinner, of Westram, in Kent, Student*  
Phyick and Astrology.

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Printed for *I. W. I. C. W. T. and T. P.*

*C. nigrescens* white and sometimes black.



Here followeth a most True  
and Certain Relation of the fearful and  
lamentable Condition of *Margaret Gurr*  
of *Tunbridge*, the Words that she spake, or  
were taken from her mouth, *Verbatim* as she  
spake them.

**I** Margaret Gurr, Servant to Mr. Chri-  
stopher Elderidge in the Parish of Tun-  
bridge in Kent, had two Devils appeared  
to me about Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon,  
one Sunday the 17th day of July, 1681. One  
of these two Devils seemed to be in Gray Cloath-  
ing, and the other in Black: The black Devil  
was of little Stature and short, the gray Devil  
was of stout thick squat Stature; they both came  
behind the Table that was in the Room. The  
gray Devil would have me hang my self with  
Clock-Lines that was in the Room; then the  
Devil told me, That if I would not hang my  
self with the Clock-Lines, I should put or thrust  
Knitting-Needles in my Ears, and so destroy  
or kill my self that way.

On the Wednesday following, being July the 20th, 1681. This day I lay down on my Bed to take my rest, and there came the Gray Devil to me and lay down on the Bed by me, and he took me by the Wrists and Hands and held them so very fast, that I could not wag nor stir them; and he griped and scrouged them so hard, that they swelled and ached all the day afterwards. This gray Devil Snear'd as if he had been asleep by me all the while, and I would have risen but he would not let me; and as soon as it pleased God that I had power to wag or stir my self, this horrible Imp or Devil vanished out of my sight, and then I was in good ease: Then I went down the Stairs to go about my work as well as I could, then was I soon taken with a most grievous pain in my Neck, and all the hinder side of my head being terribly pull'd, and fearfully torn; these pains held me all the Afternoon: then there came and appeared to me the black Devil, in a most terrible and frightful shape, while I was in this extreame pulling and tearing pains; he said not one word to me then, but stared in my face, and so he Vanished, and as soon as he was gone away, my pains were abated.

Then the 4th day of August, 1681. This day I was taken very sick; then came the black



black Devil to me in a most ugly shape, and he entred my body and spoke in me, wishing sad Wishes, with most ugly Shreiking noises, and Roaring out Curses in me, and said to me, Curse and Swear as I do, and Wishes such Wishes as I do, and you shall be well. Then again the 5th day of August 1681.

This day there came unto me a Witch and she entred into me also, and spake in me with most hideous and strange Noises, saying unto me, Be as I am, and you shall be as well as ever you were in your Life, and about your business as well as ever you do, and I would not have you go to Doctor Skinner that Devil for help, nor take none of his Physick.

This 5th day of August she continued speaking in me continually, saying; Do as I say, and do as I would have you, and be as I am, for I am a Witch, a Witch, I am a Witch, do as I say and be as I am, and you shall be well. Thus she continued speaking in me all day, and all the day I was in a most lamentable pain in my Limbs, with shakings and tremblings, always when I went to Prayers, I was tempted not to Pray, but Curse and Swear, and my Mouth was strangely drawn aside, that I could not speak to Pray,

shut my mouth, nor could I shut my mouth when it was open; but my mouth sometimes was shut up, and at other times held wide open.

August the 6th day, 1681. This day as I went to fetch some Pails of Water, I was caught up with the Devils, and was carried about with them, flying in the Air.

A Doctor Skinner told me I should Pray when I was tempted, but I was over-powered and over-persuaded by them, and yielded to them, and then was I the second time flying in the Air; but when I could Pray and I did not yield to these Temptations, then I was pretty well, and in good ease, when I remembered Doctor Skinners words.

Again the Witch spoke in me with so loud, sudden, and fearful a voice, that I was greatly affrighted, and in a most lamentable manner I trembled and shoke: She said but in me with a most doleful voice, saying, Oh you not to that Devil Doctor Skinner for help, for if you do, I am utter undone.

While I was in the Chamber with the Devil, there was most strange voices down the Stairs by my Master and his, viz. Great Lumberings and Clatter: as if the Chairs and Stools had been thrown



thrown about the Chamber, as if the whole House had been falling down, so that it frightened them, and all the whole Family, in-  
 so-much that had not I been speedily Cured, my Master and Mistress and all the whole Family must have been forced to have left the House.

My Master and Mistress often went to Prayers with me, and Prayed for me often, yet all did no good, so that at the last I was got to such a pass, and so carried up and down with the Devils and the Witch, that there was continual Noises and Voices speaking in me, and I was always moveable, viz. never in peace nor quietness, either standing, sitting, or lying, nor could my Master and Mistress ever be at quiet, but in fear; so with my strange actions and amazing frightful looks, they were always Terrified; But with the Blessing and help of God, Doctor Skinner cast out the Devils and Witch out of my body; and also Cured me of the Scurvy and Bout, and all within the compass of twelve days, in which time with a Physical, Natural, and other means used, I was perfectly restored to my former Health; neither hath those Devils ever attempted to meddle with me since, but I now continue in Health both of Soul, Body, and Mind, and I have a very fresh, lively,

liberty, and chearful Countenance, and am very well. Moreover, Here is to be Noted, the wonderful Blessing and love of God to me, his poor Handmaid, That before this great affliction was laid upon me, I knew not any Letters in the Bible or Testament, but since my enduring this heavy punishment, (or Hell upon Earth) I can now learn my Book, and am wonderfully delighted in Reading and spending all my spare time in Prayers, and meditating on the word of God. For I was for the most part of my life much given to Prayers, and would often pray when I was alone and had leisure, so that it was not for any vicious and wicked life that I have led (as it is well known to all that know me) that the Lord laid these sore Afflictions upon me, but I hope for my good; knowing that Those whom the Lord loveth he Chastizeth; So that my trust may be always in the Lord my God, and my loss may henceforth become my gain; for to my great comfort, I can now read the Divine word of God, which before I could not.

All the while I was in this desolate condition, my Brothers nor any of my Friends came not near me, but all forsook me, they hearing how I was tempted and tortured with Witches and Devils above a hundred times to Curse and swear in my Prayers, before the Devil appeared to me: so that now I am well, my own Brother will as soon



soon as he sees me at a distance, be gone out of my sight, and not speak a word to me, being still afraid of me, so that I have no comfort from them, Hebrews 12. 6, 7, 8. But having undergone the Rod of Gods Correction here now in my youth, I take courage, hoping that as I grow in years, to grow in Grace, as David did when he said, (*Psalms* 119. 71.) It is good that I have been afflicted, that I might learn the Statutes. *Psal.* 34. 19. Many are the afflictions of the Righteous, but the Lord deliver them out of all. Therefore let none think it hard to be Tempted, seeing that our Lord and Saviour (*Mat.* 4. 5.) was Tempted and carried about of Devils as well as I; The Servant is not greater then his Lord.

To Conclude, I desire all good People to consider their latter end, and be fervent in Prayer lest they enter into Temptation; Therefore ought to be armed with Patience, 1 Pet. 1. 3. *Ephes.* 6. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18. *1 Cor.* 13. 8. for the manifestation of the truth of the things I have heretunto set my hand,

Tunbridge  
in Kent.

Margaret Gurr.

In the presence of these four Witnesses  
Namely.

Christopher Elderidge and his Wife, and Mary Marlot, and William Tully.

Here followeth a Relation of  
 a Male-Servant, about 17 Years  
 of Age, who was posselt with a De-  
 vil in the shape of a Grey-hound.

**H**enry Chouning, living in the Parish of  
 Hadlaw in Kent, had a servant-Boy about  
 the age of seventeen years; he was much inclin'd  
 to read the Scriptures, and lively enough, and a  
 good Servant, and healthy: His Master sent  
 him out in his ground, where he had not been  
 long, but there appeared unto him a Spirit in





the form of a Greyhound, which made towards him, and spoke, saying, You must go into Virginia ; it said no more, but vanished ; the Boy immediately went home and told his Master all what he had seen, but he came home in a great fright, and as it were amazed, and looked very strangely, after that he grew worse and worse, and after a strange manner he would fix his eyes, and was extreame melancholly, and his speech began to fail, all People supposing him to be under an evil Tongue or bewitched, the Boy growing worse and worse, they were resolved to look out for help, for they fear'd the Boy would make away with himself, and they were much troubled thereat.

This Master hearing of the many Cures I had done, brought him over to me, and after I had examined the business and well consider'd of it, I found he was possesst with the Devil, for he was as it were in amaze, and his eyes were always fixed in his head, and I had much ado to get him to speak a word, but by my urging of him, he did confess that he was tempted in his mind, and was led on and tempted to strange things, as to go to Sea, and matters that he was not able to mention ; so that when I rightly understood his condition, and how and after what manner he was taken, and his temptation did increase upon him, I understood what the means

means must be that must reliefe him, and gave order for the putting up of Medicines, for the means must be speedy, or else it cannot be performed: he was very willing to take or make use of any means, and I ordered his Mother to come to me the next week, or when he had made use of those things; so she did, and brought me news he was much amended, to the admiration of many that heard how it was with him, with those that came to me at Tunbridge, marched to inquire how he did? He said then he was not at all troubled, but onely with a pain in his belly, so that he had something more sent him, and by Gods help was made perfectly well in 18 days time, neither hath any thing attempted to trouble him since in the least: when I got the Boy to speak, (which was with much ado) his Speech was not according to a natural speech of his boy, but as if something did make a noyse within him, or as if he spoke through the Nose (as we call it) for it was not his own speech, but the Spirit or Devil within him, that tempted him also, and told him many strange things: The Boy seemed to amend while he was in the room with me, for when he went away with his Master, he could talk and speak much better, and was abundantly more lively. I undertook the Cure at a price, as by bargaining with his Master for what I should have, taking one half of the money



in hand, and the rest I was to have when I had done the Cure and cast out the evil Spirit or Devil out of him, and at the fourth nights end, his Master came and payed me for the Cure, for the Boy was as well as ever he was.

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## Here followeth Two Wonderful and Miraculous CURES which was (by the help of God) performed by me in a short time.

**M**R. Woldredge, living at West-Chilton in Suffex, his Daughter Susan had the Evil in her Eyes, and a great Rheum and inflammation followed it: she had been with others before she came to me; her Father came over and asked my advice, I told him she would be well and bid him go home; so he did, but soon after his Daughter was in extreame misery with swelling and raging pain in her Eye, insomuch that they thought certainly she would have lost her Eye, but on a sudden it began to mend, and was the better and better; her Father came again, and sent her a Surge with some other matter, and she was in a short time made perfectly well, and

which continued ever since, being six years of  
her friends much rejoiced, and  
well rewarded me.

A Woman in West-Groftree, in Suffex, this  
Woman had the Cough in her Throat, and hear-  
ing of my Cures, did desire one Goody Arch-  
poll to pray me to meet her at Ashington-Fair,  
as I did, and talked with her, so at that time I  
had thought to give her, but did offer her to come  
over, and she did promise she would; but I did  
hear no more of her; so I did order Goody Arch-  
poll to inquire why she did not come, so she did,  
and the Woman said she had no need, for she  
found her self begin to mend from that same  
time, and was now perfectly well: and the truth  
of this same Relation, the aforementioned Goody  
Archpoll in Suffex can testify.

One Goody Halle at Seavenock in Kent, had  
a most lamentable pain in her head, near her Eye,  
so to make her distracted, for she was in lamen-  
table pain night and day, and could never be at  
rest; she had been with many Doctors, and took  
much Physick of them, but did no good: she  
came to me, and was at ease immediately, and  
was Cured from that time: I sent her home  
with some Medicines, and now she remains in  
sound and perfect health.

F I N I S.





